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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM ON INCREASED COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN DAK TO AREA SOUTH VIETNAM

NPIC/R-36/68 FEBRUARY 1968

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Approved For Release 2000/06/30 : CIA-RDP78B04560A006200010035-2

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INCREASED COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN DAK TO AREA

NPIC analysis of aerial photography reveals a new road extending from the communist road network in Laos through the Tri-border area of Cambodia and into South Vietnam in the vicinity of Dak To. New occupied communist defense positions are present at the junction of this road and South Vietnam Route 512 on 25X1D

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Photography of revealed the extension of Laos Route 110 to a point in the Tri-border area of Cambodia near the South Vietnam border (see accompanying map). The road had been extended across the South Vietnam/Cambodia border and joined with South Vietnam Route 512. The completion of this road provides a motorable communist logistical road net to at least four US installations in the Dak To area.

Road clearing operations are also observed extending the same route approximately $1\!\!\!/\,4$ nm south-southeast to a point approximately 28 nm west of Kontum.

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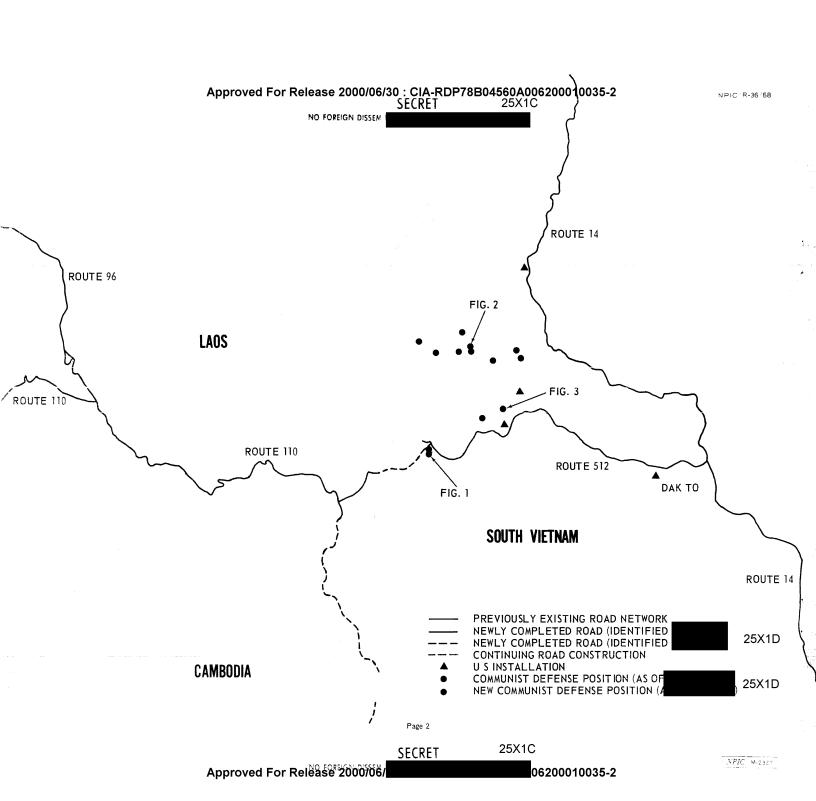
Photography also has revealed two occupied automatic weapon or antiaircraft sites (Figure 1) of four positions each at the junction of the newly completed road and Route 512. This is the first sighting by NPIC of occupied defense sites in the Dak To Area. NPIC does not receive photography, however.

Preliminary interpretation indicates a strongpoint at 14-45N 107-38E (Figure 2) which contains one large U-shaped and three large circular trenches, possibly under construction. These appear to be personnel trenches providing 360 degree security for defense. At least four additional strongpoints (Figure 3), each consisting of a circular pattern of foxholes with one or more automatic weapons positions, are located approximately 6,000 meters northeast of the junction and in the immediate vicinity of two US installations.

Analysis of the area for further communist activity is continuing.

This information was previously disseminated in NPIC cable message 3126, 28 Feb $68.\,$

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NEW ROAD

FIGURE 1. JUNCTION OF NEW ROAD AND RT. 512, SOUTH VIETNAM 14-40N 107-36E.

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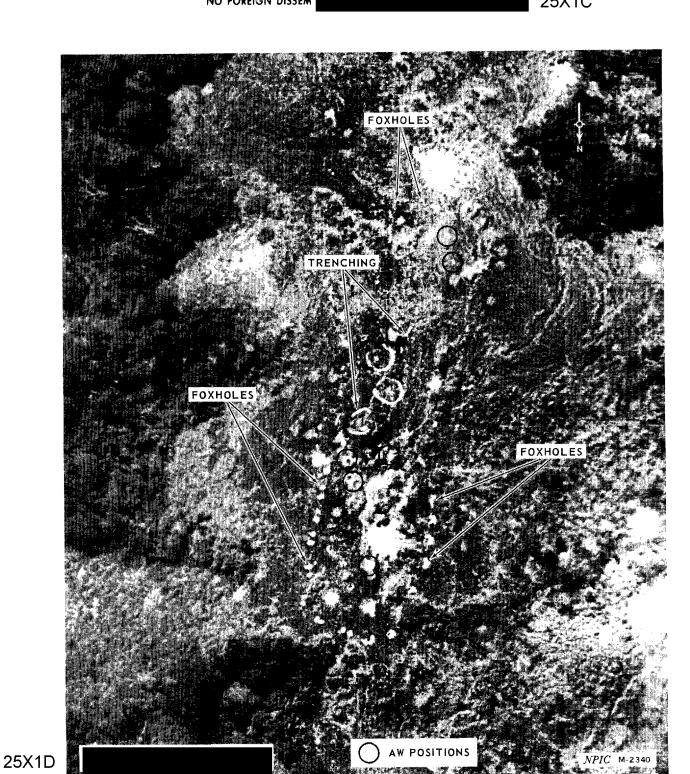


FIGURE 2. COMMUNIST DEFENSE POSITION, SOUTH VIETNAM 14-45N 107-38E

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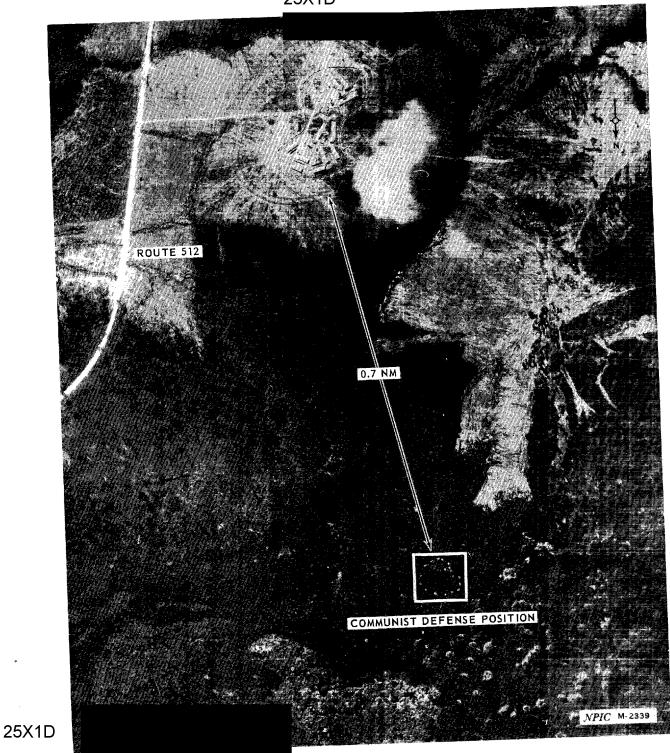


FIGURE 3. COMMUNIST DEFENSE POSITION, SOUTH VIETNAM 14-42N 107-40E

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